

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 18394 231407Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----003090 231415Z /45
O 231340Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8265

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 18394

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: SCHEDULE

1. FONSEC TOLD ME THIS EVENING PRIME MINISTER DESAI HAD LEARNED ONLY TODAY THAT A VILLAGE VISIT WAS NO LONGER UNDER CONSIDERATION. ACCORDING TO FONSEC, PRIME MINISTER WAS DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE HE HAD WANTED TO EXPOSE PRESIDENT CARTER TO A TYPICAL VILLAGE IN ORDER

TO SHOW HIM HOW THE AVERAGE INDIAN LIVED AND WORKED. FONSEC SAID PRIME MINISTER ASKED ME TO ADVISE PRESIDENT URGENTLY OF HIS HOPE THAT A

VILLAGE VISIT COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE. PRIME MINISTER EVEN OFFERED TO PROVIDE HELICOPTER TO FLY PRESIDENT TO A VILLAGE.

2. I AGREE WITH EARLIER ASSESSMENT THAT THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO POSSIBILITY OF REARRANGING JANUARY 2 SCHEDULE TO ACCOMMODATE A VILLAGE VISIT. ONLY POSSIBILITY SEEMS TO BE MORNING OF JANUARY 3 PRIOR TO SIGNING OF JOINT DECLARATION. (PRIME MINISTER IS A VERY EARLY RISER.)

3. ADVANCE PARTY HAS BEEN WORKING ON ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WILL BE NO VISIT BUT AGREE THAT, IF THERE IS TO BE A VISIT, ONLY POSSIBILITY IS MORNING JANUARY 3.

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4. I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO PRIME MINISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THIS.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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